

TANOAK-DOUGLAS-FIR/SALAL-PACIFIC RHODODENDRON

Lithocarpus densiflorus-Pseudotsuga menziesii/Gaultheria shallon-Rhododendron macrophyllum

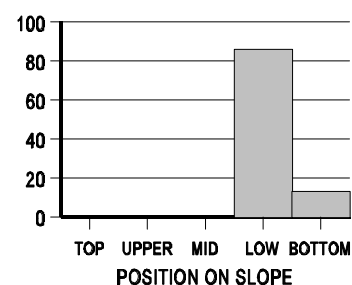
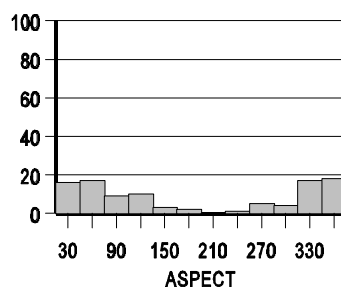
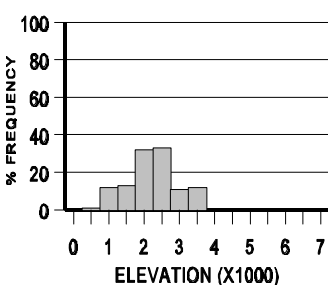
LIDE3-PSME/GASH-RHMA3 (N=80; NRCS=46, BLM=34)



Distribution. This common Association occurs on both sides of the coastal crest. It is common throughout the western Siskiyou National Forest and the Myrtlewood Resource Area of the Coos Bay District, Bureau of Land Management. It is also commonly found east of the coastal crest, north of Township 36 South. It only rarely occurs in the Illinois Valley area.

Distinguishing Characteristics. Sites occur on both sides of the coastal crest, mostly on lower slope or bottom topographic positions. Most sites occur on sandstone. North aspects are favored, particularly on inland sites. Like other associations that straddle the crest, relative cover of species can be used to distinguish among the associations.

Soils. Sandstone is the most common parent material. However, sites can also be



ultramafic or gabbro. Based on 34 samples, average soil depth is greater than 39 inches. Textures are mostly sandy loam, less often silt loam and silty clay loam. Average rock fragment content is 48 percent, mostly gravel (averaging 41 percent) in size.

Environment. Elevation averages about 2500 feet. Average annual temperature is about 50 degrees F. Average annual precipitation is about 123 inches, the second highest rate for the Series. Slopes average 34 percent, but can be steeper, particularly on inland sites. Pacific rhododendron and evergreen huckleberry are subordinate to salal, since elevation is near the high end of the Series range. Evergreen huckleberry cover is highest at approximately 1000 feet in elevation.

Vegetation Composition and Structure. Species richness, low for the Series, is 26. Occurrence of this Association is localized, therefore, environmental variation is low. Shrub and herb richness are below the Series average. The overstory is the usual complement of species including golden chinquapin, sugar pine, Pacific madrone, and tanoak. Rarely, white fir and western white pine may be found, particularly at the higher elevations. Typically, tanoak dominates the regeneration layer; Douglas-fir is a common competitor. Golden chinquapin, common in this Association, often indicates rockier soils. Rarely, wet site indicators such as western hemlock, western redcedar, Pacific yew, and red alder may be present at low cover. Salal and Pacific rhododendron totally dominate the shrub layer. Rarely, on the driest sites, poison oak or hair honeysuckle may be present. Common beargrass is more abundant on the drier sites, while western sword-fern characterizes the wettest sites. Braken rarely occurs, but when present, it is often abundant.

Common name	Code	Constancy	Cover	Avg. Richness
<u>Overstory trees</u>				3
Douglas-fir	PSME	100	54	
Pacific madrone	ARME	65	5	
<u>Understory trees</u>				2
Tanoak	LIDE3	97	25	
Douglas-fir	PSME	79	9	
Golden chinquapin	CACH6	68	19	
Sugar pine	PILA	59	4	
<u>Shrubs</u>				4
Salal	GASH	100	59	
Pacific rhododendron	RHMA3	100	41	
Dwarf Oregongrape	BENE2	88	7	
Evergreen huckleberry	VAOV2	74	10	
<u>Herbs</u>				8
Common beargrass	XETE	35	3	
Western sword-fern	POMU	26	3	